

Message Text

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STATE FOR DEP UNDER SECRETARY EAGLEBURGER AND KNIGHT
INFO ASSISTANT SECRETARY THOMAS & INSPECTOR GENERAL SAYRE

DEFENSE FOR DEPASSTSEC FOR ADMIN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG

SUBJ: REQUIREMENT FOR DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS FOR DEPARTMENT OF
DEFENSE PERSONNEL USNATO

1. ORGANIZATION OF US MISSION TO NATO IS UNIQUE BY VIRTUE OF THE FACT THAT SOME TWO-THIRDS OF PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO MISSION ARE DOD PERSONNEL. AN ANOMALY EXISTS IN THE MISSION REGARDING CERTAIN OF THESE OFFICERS WHO RANK WITH THEIR STATE COUNTERPARTS BUT DO NOT TRAVEL ON DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS, DESPITE THE FACT THAT THEY ARE ACCREDITED ON BELGIAN DIPLOMATIC LISTS. THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR FOR ADMINISTRATION, PERSONNEL AND SECURITY AND THE POSITION OF THE DEPUTY DEFENSE ADVISOR FALL INTO THIS CATEGORY. WERE THESE POSITIONS FILLED BY FSOS, THEY WOULD BE ENTITLED TO THE DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT. THESE TWO POSITIONS INVOLVE A GREAT DEAL OF TRAVEL PARTICULARLY AT TIMES OF MINISTERIAL MEETINGS OUTSIDE OF BELGIUM OR WHENEVER THE AMBASSADOR TRAVELS TO OTHER MAJOR NATO EVENTS. AS OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE AMBASSADOR'S PARTY THE ISSUANCE OF DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS WOULD FACILITATE TRAVEL OF THESE OFFICERS THROUGHOUT EUROPE AND WOULD ASSIST THEM IN THE PERFORMANCE

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OF THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES.

2. INDIVIDUALS CURRENTLY OCCUPYING THESE POSITIONS ARE:
DEPUTY DEFENSE ADVISOR: BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN SEIGLE,

US ARMY

DIRECTOR FOR ADMINISTRATION, PERSONNEL AND SECURITY:

COLONEL WALTER G. KERSEY, US ARMY

3. IN ADDITION TO THE INCUMBENTS OF THESE TWO POSITIONS, THERE ARE FIVE SENIOR OFFICERS IN OTHER POSITIONS REPORTING DIRECTLY TO THE DEFENSE ADVISOR. THEIR FUNCTIONS REQUIRE FREQUENT TRAVEL THROUGHOUT THE EUROPEAN NATO AREA TO CAPITALS AND TO NATO COMMAND SITES FOR SCHEDULED MEETINGS AND ON INDEPENDENT FACT-FINDING TRIPS. THIS FREQUENT TRAVEL WOULD BE FACILITATED BY ISSUANCE OF DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS CURRENTLY OCCUPYING THE POSITIONS OF:

DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE PLANS DIVISION: MR. G. BADER, FD-2

DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE OPERATIONS DIVISION: COLONEL J. MCKENNEY,
USAF

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS DIVISION: MR.

E. GENTRY, FD-2

DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND LOGISTICS DIVISION:

MR. T. LOVELAND, FD-2

DIRECTOR OF ARMAMENTS AND STANDARDIZATION DIVISION:

COLONEL W. WHIPPLE, US ARMY

4. IT IS MY CONSIDERED VIEW, SUPPORTED BY THE RECENT FS INSPECTOR TEAM VISIT, THAT USNATO SHOULD OPERATE AS AN ORGANIZATIONAL ENTITY WITH A MINIMUM DISTINCTION AS TO OFFICER ORIGIN. THE PROVISION OF DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS FOR THE POSITIONS CITED WOULD SUPPORT THIS CONCEPT IN FACT.

5. I WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE FAVORABLE EXPEDITIOUS HANDLING OF THIS REQUEST. STRAUSSZ-HUPE

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